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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF :  
MASATOSHI TOHATA, ET AL. : ATTN: BOX SEQUENCE  
SERIAL NO: 10/578,613 :  
FILED: MAY 8, 2006 :  
FOR: RECOMBINANT :  
MICROORGANISM :

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT AND STATEMENT

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

SIR:

Responsive to the Official Communication of January 11, 2007, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 3 of this paper.